



MARINA'S MESSAGE

NEWS YOU CAN USE **FEBRUARY 2012**

Dear Friends,

The new year has been very exciting here at the County Board! In this e-newsletter you will find more information about our new MetroExpress bus lines as well as winter activities in our County Parks. We recognize Bay View Redcat Ron Bird for his great work in our community and also provide a comprehensive progress report of all of our great accomplishments with the Greenprint legislation I authored. Lastly, I hope you will pay special attention to the changes being proposed at the State for Family Care, it could have major impacts on older adults in our community.

Marina D.

Milwaukee County Board Committees

[Parks, Energy, & Environment](#)

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[Chair, County Board Information Technology](#)

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[Lakefront Development Advisory Commission](#)

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Sierra Club

Assn. of Marquette University Women

Bay View Neighborhood Association

American Council of Young Political Leaders

Bay View Historical Society

South Shore Park Watch

Bay View Lions Club

Inter-Organizational Council of Bay View

Bay View High School Alumni Association

9 to 5, Nat'l Association of Working Women

South Side Scholarship Foundation

Board of Directors, Emerge Wisconsin

UMOS Community Service Block Grant
Advisory Committee

Marina in our Community

Known as "Coach" to many, Ron Bird Retires from the Redcats

Lift the Family Care cap and hold public hearings now

Supervisor Dimitrijevic helps launch 3 new express bus routes

Recently in Milwaukee County

County Clerk Now has telephone and internet services in Spanish

Green Print 2011 Progress Report

MCTS Changes in 2012

Winter Activities in YOUR Milwaukee County Parks!

The Domes

Ice Skating

Indoor Pools

Community Centers

Save The Date

LBWN Executive Breakfast

City of Milwaukee Needs Bilingual Poll Workers for 2012 Cycle

Bay View Winter Blast

4th Annual Bay View Community Center Wine Tasting Benefit

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Marina in our Community

Known as “Coach” to many, Ron Bird Retires from the Redcats

After 58 years in youth sports, Ron Bird can't go out in public anywhere in the metro Milwaukee area without someone saying, “Hey, coach!”

Sometimes Bird, 77, will remember their name, sometimes not—some of the players from his earliest years are pushing retirement age—but he always remembers something about them, whether it's where they lived, what sport they played or what high school they went on to attend.

Since he's announced his retirement from the Bay View Area Redcats, he's received calls from as far away as Germany and as close as from across Wisconsin from adults who remember the man who coached them when they were in middle school decades ago.

“What's gratifying is when you are someplace and someone comes up and says, ‘Coach Bird, remember me? I played with you in the ‘60s’” Bird said. “I had a guy call me from Germany. He played on my first team in 1957. He heard I was retiring. I told him, ‘Yeah, I'm considering it.’ He said ‘Aw, geez, I don't get back to Milwaukee that often.’ I've been in the Air Force. He told me who he was and the name rang a bell.”

“The UPS delivery guy came in and said ‘Hey coach, do you remember me?’ I told him I didn't remember his name—but knew exactly where he lived. Wherever I go, people tell me that I coached them or they worked with me, they were a coach with me, I coached their kid. That's the gratifying part.”

Bird directed the group for the past 37 years before deciding to step down as president and hand over the operations to another group. His last day was Jan. 9.

Bird has been involved in youth sports since his days coaching the Bay View branch of the Central Milwaukee YMCA, beginning in 1953. When the organization closed the facility in 1974, Bird worked with a group interested in keeping youth sports in the south side area

and founded the nonprofit Bay View Area Redcats. They formed the group because they believed the distance to the South Milwaukee YMCA would be too far for Bay View neighborhood youths to engage in sports—so they formed one in Bay View.

Bird said the key to the program was to give all the participants, no matter their skill level, that opportunity to play and grow as an athlete.

“I think part of the success is giving the kids a good shot at the program.” Bird said, “They have to play in the program—win, lose or draw, they still get to play. You had some kids that couldn't bust their way out of a paper bag when they started, but were given that opportunity to play. You don't find that out anymore—sports programs don't always do that.”

Bird's peers in the community across the state attest to his skill as a coach and his impact on the community around him. Twice he's been selected Bay View Business Association Man of the Year and in 2010 was awarded the Wisconsin Football Coaches Association 2010 Dave McClain Distinguished Service Award for his many years of work and dedication to youth football. The trophy proclaiming his award hung at Lambeau Field for a year and marks one of Bird's career highlights.

The real highlight to Bird, though, is when he sees the impact the organization has had on youths and the Bay View community for nearly 40 years.

“I just so much wanted this program to take hold—and it did,” said Bird.

The group provides sports programming for youths ages 5 to 15, in baseball, softball, basketball, tackle football and cheerleading. Bird points out that former Wildcats have gone on to play high school, college and even at the professional sports levels, such as tight end Travis Beckum with the New York Giants.

Marina in our Community

Known as “Coach” to many, Ron Bird Retires from the Redcats

“We started with no place to meet and holding our equipment handout in a one-car garage,” he said. “That turned into a two-car garage, then a three-car garage. Then we started looking for a place to rent. It’s grown over the years.”

The group currently serves more than 600 boys and girls from all areas of Milwaukee.

“It was a good-running program, gave kids an opportunity to participate,” Bird said. “There were a lot that eventually made their high school teams which may not have made it without the two or three years’ experience with the Redcats.”

“When you played two or three years with the Redcats, when you went on to high school, you made the team, even as a freshman. We had one of the best junior programs in the state.”

While Bird has seen his share of ups and downs with the organization, his involvement has been more one of commitment than resource — he’s also worked as a tool and die maker for 42 of those years, many times working third shift so that he could run the youth leagues during the daytime. He retired in 1998.

Bird has lived his entire life in Bay View, lettering in football twice and track three times at Bay View High School before going on to a teaching college in Milwaukee. There, he hurt his knee and was unable to continue his collegiate football career, and later left the college and pursued other career options. He also played a couple years of semi-professional football.

Bird has two daughters, both of whom participated in the Redcats cheerleading program. His wife of 50 years, Jackie, passed away earlier this year. Bird had back surgery and screws inserted into his back a couple of months later.

Bird’s daughter, Patti Branske, said her father gave much of his time and effort to the youths — and adults — of the community in which he lived.

“My dad always helped the underdog,” Branske said. “There was a time when this gentleman — who had gone to school with my father — had fallen on difficult times, and was homeless for a while. When my dad was down at the (Redcats) office, he hired that man to do some office work, clean up around the building, so he could earn a couple of dollars a day to buy food. He paid for that out of his own pocket, not the organization.”

Branske said that to the youths her father worked with for those 58 years, he was a mentor, friend, someone who could be counted on no matter the situation.

“Someone would call in the middle of the night saying they needed something, he would rush out and do it. He is that nice person that we probably don’t see much of anymore. We live in a time of me-me-me and I-I-I — and he is always the opposite. He never thinks of himself first — he thinks of others first.”

Bird said resources and financial backing have been tough these last several years and that he’s paid out of pocket for many of the expenses. As one of his daughters worked with him on his check-book and determined he had injected thousands into the program over the year, she urged him to retire and hand over the reins to a successor.

This article was published in the Milwaukee Post, January 14, 2012 edition.

Supervisor Dimitrijevic is recognizing Bay View Area Redcats Director Ron Bird for his retirement. For more than 40 years, Ron has been an asset to our community.

Marina in our Community

Lift the Family Care cap and hold public hearings now

January 27, 2012 Milwaukee, WI

Milwaukee County Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic released the following statement calling on State leaders to follow a directive from the Federal government by ending the enrollment cap for Family Care:

“The State of Wisconsin’s lack of action on Family Care is deeply disappointing. As a member of Milwaukee County’s Commission on Aging, it is my duty to look out for the interests of individuals who have nowhere else to turn.

“Despite a recent letter from the Federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services stating that any individuals not enrolled in Family Care since the July 1, 2011 cap should be immediately enrolled, the Walker administration and the Legislature have been slow to follow this directive.

“It’s time for the Governor to comply with this letter from the Feds directing the State to begin enrolling people currently on the wait list. Hundreds of seniors are on the wait list for Family Care because of the State-imposed cap. It’s been about ten years since there has been a wait list for seniors in Milwaukee County. The Feds have now directed that the cap be lifted, but that has not yet occurred. Legislation is needed to immediately lift the State’s enrollment cap without diminishing service to elderly residents and those with disabilities.

“In his State of the State speech earlier this week, Governor Walker touted that his funding for Medicaid allowed the State to ‘expand Family Care...all across the State.’ Yet, the wait list persists, and the Walker administration’s efforts to end it are sluggish. The lack of swift action from the State wrongly denies individuals of benefits for which they are eligible.

“State leaders are proposing significant reforms to offset the expected costs of lifting the cap. The State Legislative Audit Bureau recently found the Milwaukee County Department of Family Care to be fiscally sound. The State must hold public hearings in Milwaukee County before proceeding with any draft reforms to ensure that the safety, health and welfare of our residents is maintained.

“Every day that the State fails to change its course is a day too many for our residents in need. The cap should have never been instituted, and these individuals have been waiting since July. In fact, many individuals with disabilities have been waiting for years. We need immediate action, as directed by the Federal government.

Supervisor Dimitrijevic is the Supervisory Delegate on the Milwaukee County Commission on Aging, which discussed the Family Care enrollment cap this morning.

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Marina in our Community

Supervisor Dimitrijevic helps launch three new express bus routes

January 30, 2012 Milwaukee, WI

Milwaukee County Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic proudly participated in the launching of the Milwaukee County Transit System's (MCTS) new MetroExpress service on Saturday.

"The [GreenLine](#) and [BlueLine](#) both run through the 4th District, and I'm glad that we are adding service to benefit transit riders and businesses, especially in the area surrounding the planned Bay View artistic bus shelter and the flourishing business area in the Silver City neighborhood," Supervisor Dimitrijevic said. "These routes will help riders get to their destinations more quickly and efficiently."

- The [GreenLine](#) serves the heart of Bay View and operates between Bayshore Town Center and General Mitchell International Airport.
- The [BlueLine](#), which also travels through the 4th District, provides service along National Avenue to S. 70th/Greenfield Avenue in West Allis, and also connects

downtown with the Park Place business district on the northwest side via Fond du Lac Avenue.

- The [RedLine](#) operates between N. 124th Street and the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee along Capitol Drive.
- Click [here](#) for complete details on the new routes and routes changes for 2012.

"These new express routes, along with the modernization of our fleet, are exciting examples of the investments we are making in our transit system," Supervisor Dimitrijevic added. "We've already taken delivery of 180 new near-zero emission buses, and, by 2014, we'll have a total of 261 new buses, which is more than half of our fleet."

[Edición especial de Bus Lines en Español](#) - Cambios de servicio en Milwaukee County Transit System (Sistema de Tránsito del Condado de Milwaukee, MCTS) para 2012.

###



Sup. Dimitrijevic riding the new Green line from the Airport with Sup. Haas and Ald. Witkowski .



Sup. Dimitrijevic next to the new Green Line MetroExpress bus.

Recently in Milwaukee County

County Clerk now has Telephone and Internet Services in Spanish

Milwaukee County Clerk Joe Czarnezki announced that English and Spanish-language information on how to apply for a marriage license or a domestic partnership declaration is available via an automated phone system – 24 hours a day, seven days a week – by calling 414-278-4070.

These instructions, along with information regarding the purchase of Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) bus tickets, are also available on the County Clerk's website in both English and Spanish at: <http://county.milwaukee.gov/CountyClerk>.

"Providing important information to the public in both English and Spanish is part of an ongoing effort to better serve all members of our community," Czarnezki said.

El Secretario del Condado Joe Czarnezki hace disponible información importante en español por teléfono y Internet

El Secretario del Condado de Milwaukee, Joe Czarnezki, ha comunicado que ya está disponible en inglés y español información sobre cómo solicitar licencias de matrimonio o declaraciones de pareja doméstica por medio de un mensaje automatizado 24 horas por día, siete días por semana al llamar a 414-278-4070.

Estas instrucciones, así como información sobre la compra de billetes de autobús del Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS), también están disponibles en inglés y español en la página Web del Secretario del Condado: <http://county.milwaukee.gov/CountyClerk>.

Según Czarnezki, "Proveer al público información importante en inglés y español forma parte de un esfuerzo continuo para mejor servir los miembros de nuestra comunidad."

Green Print 2011 Progress Report

Milwaukee County has released an update on the progress and a summary of the accomplishments of the Green Print in 2011.

Energy audits have been performed on 60 buildings, and approximately \$10 million has been invested in energy retrofits using Performance Contracting. These energy savings measures include lighting upgrades, new building control systems, insulation, energy-efficient motors, and motion sensors. All of these projects combined are projected to result in energy savings of more than 10 million kilowatt-hours of electricity and over 200,000 therms of natural gas per year, which equates to over \$1 million in avoided utility bills, and nearly 10,000 tons per year reduced CO2 emissions.

In 2011, dozens of other energy savings projects were implemented, such as LED lighting at GMIA and Timmerman; lighting upgrades at Public Museum, CCFS and Research Park; more energy-efficient HVAC systems at Fleet Admin and Transit Admin buildings.

The update covers 12 major areas:

- ⇒ Energy Efficiency
- ⇒ Sustainable Design
- ⇒ Storm Water Pollution
- ⇒ Water Conservation
- ⇒ Recycling
- ⇒ Land Conservation
- ⇒ Renewable Energy
- ⇒ Clean Fleet
- ⇒ Grants
- ⇒ Education
- ⇒ Staffing
- ⇒ Green Purchasing

For more information, please visit the [Green Print](#)

Too see a copy of the progress report [CLICK HERE](#)

Recently in Milwaukee County

MCTS Changes in 2012

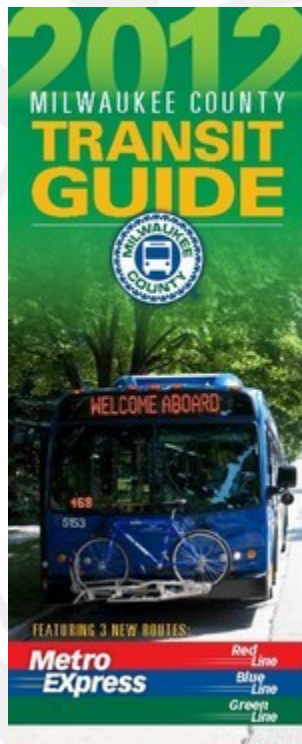
MCTS is announcing some changes in service for the year 2012. A number of actions were taken to reduce costs in other areas since decreasing bus service is always the last resort. Eliminations were trimmed to small segments which had the lowest ridership, and we are finally able to bring back express service so many had enjoyed in the past.

For more information check out the MCTS website [here](#)

Summary of Changes

- Three new express routes – [RedLine](#), [BlueLine](#) & [GreenLine](#)
- Two new routes – Route 56 (Greenfield Avenue) and 52 (Clement-15th)
- Names of Route 11, 18 & 68 will no longer be used; their service is replaced by other routes
- Routes 15, 23 & 62 will have significant routing changes
- Routes 15, 54 & 63 will have extensions, picking up other route segments
- Some small segment eliminations on Routes 11, 18, 23 & 68

For more information check out the MCTS website [here](#)



Service Hours & Frequency of MetroEXpress

[RedLine](#) (Capitol Drive)

Service will operate roughly 4:30 am to 12:30 am, seven days a week

Frequency –Weekday: 15-20 minutes, Saturday: 25-30 minutes & Sunday: 25-30 minutes

RedLine & Route 62 combined frequency: Weekday: 10-15 minutes, Saturday: 10-15 minutes & Sunday: 15-20 minutes



[BlueLine](#)

(Fond du Lac-National)

Service will operate roughly 4:30 am to 2:00 am, seven days a week

Frequency –Weekday: 15-30 minutes, Saturday: 30-45 minutes & Sunday: 30-45 minutes

BlueLine & Route 23 combined frequency: Weekday: 10-15 minutes, Saturday: 15-20 minutes & Sunday: 15-20 minutes



[GreenLine](#)

(Bayshore-Airport)

• Service will operate roughly 4:30 am to 2:00 am, seven days a week

• Frequency – Weekday: 10-15 minutes, Saturday: 20-25 minutes & Sunday: 25-30 minutes

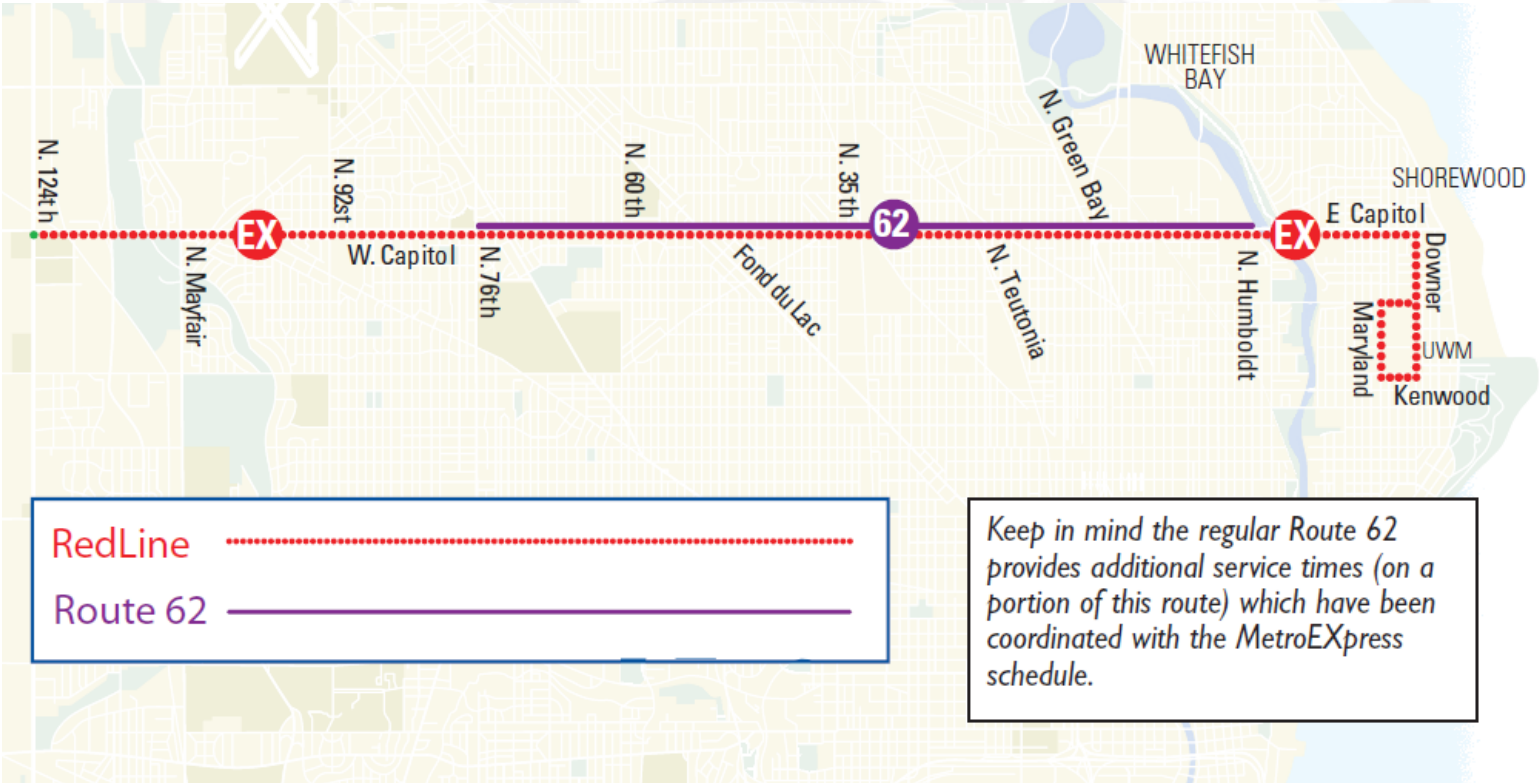
Combined Frequency for MetroEXpress Buses and Routes 62 & 23



Keep in mind the regular Routes 23 & 62 provide additional service times (on a portion of the route) which have been coordinated with the MetroEXpress schedules.

Recently in Milwaukee County

MetroEXpress RedLine

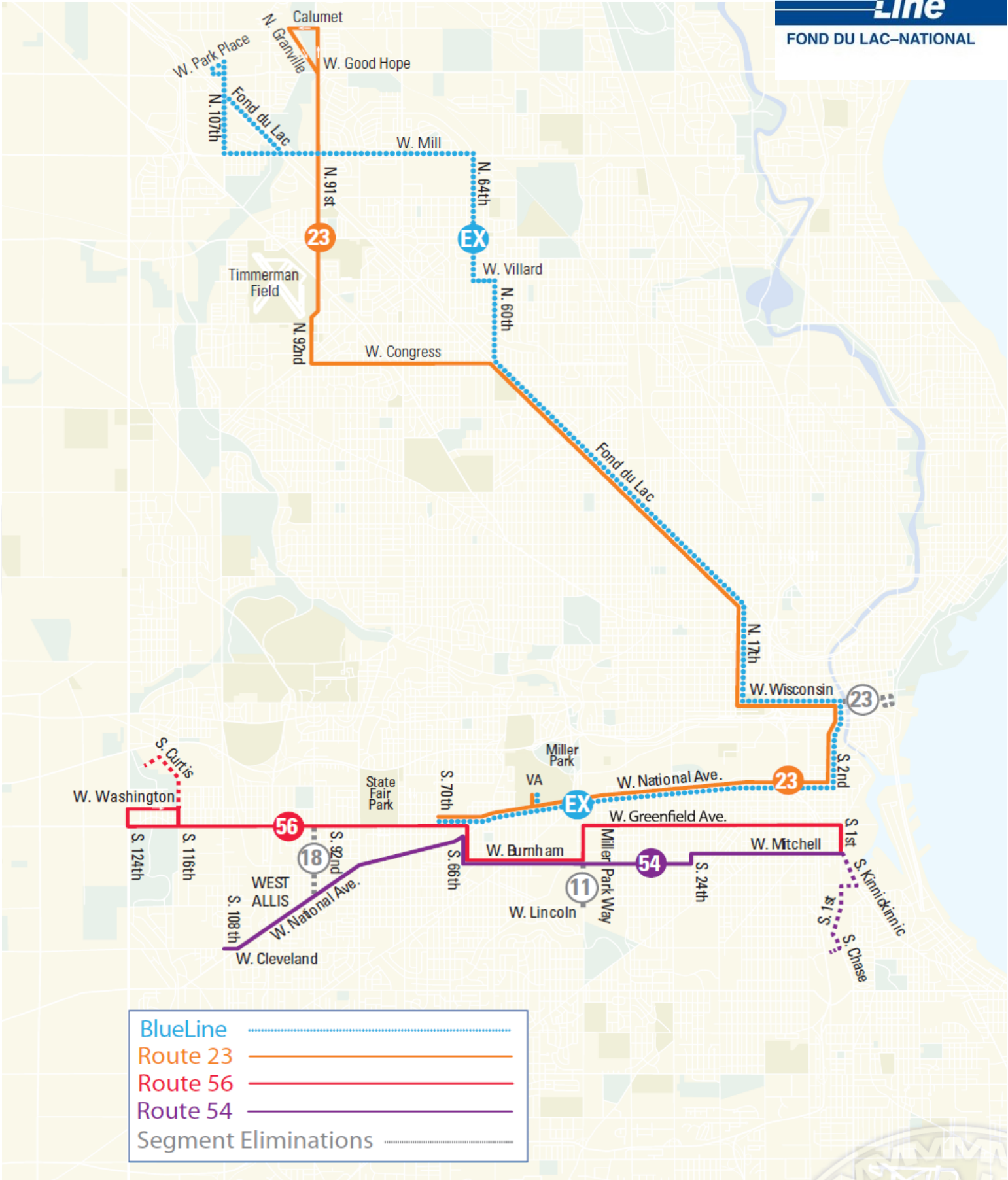


Recently in Milwaukee County

MetroEXpress BlueLine

Blue
Line

FOND DU LAC-NATIONAL

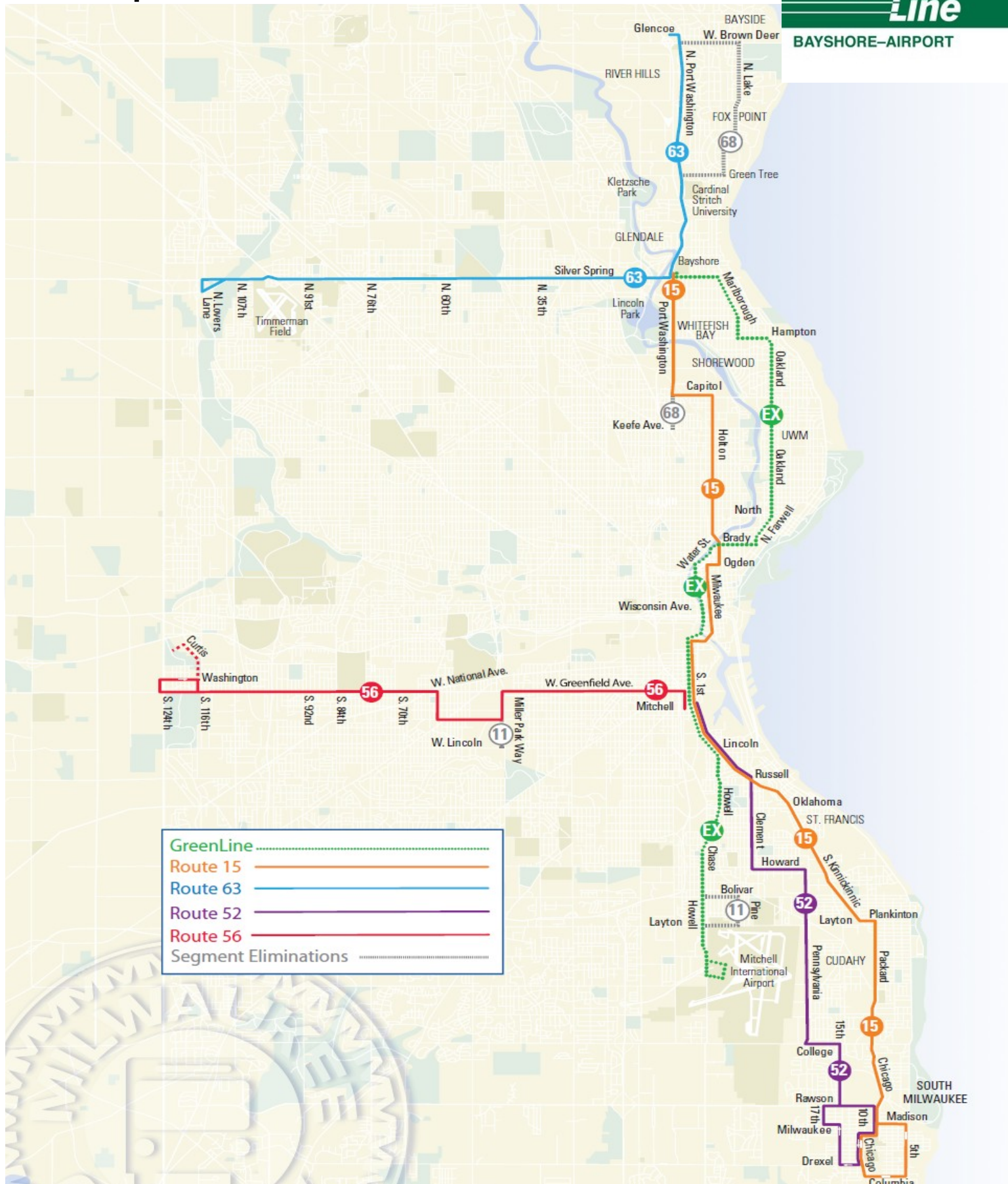


Recently in Milwaukee County

MetroEXpress GreenLine

**Green
Line**

BAYSHORE-AIRPORT



Winter Activities in Your Milwaukee County Parks

Looking for Something to do This Winter?

Warm up this season with some of the hottest events in town. There are many fun and exciting activities to enjoy all winter long. Our facilities offer activities and special events for your family and friends. Inside you will find your guide to affordable winter fun!

Check Out Your **Milwaukee County Parks!**

THE DOMES



The Domes is home to numerous cultural events that are open to the public year round. As one of the most visited attractions in Milwaukee County, The Domes also serve as a gathering place for lively entertainment and more!

LOCATION

524 South Layton Blvd

(414) 257-5611

M-F: 9 am – 5 pm

Th: 9 am – 9 pm

(Nov 3-Mar 22)

Sat & Sun: 9 am – 4 pm

GENERAL ADMISSION

Age 18 & up \$6.50

Age 6–17 \$5.00

Senior Age 60+ \$5.00

(with proof of residency)

Person w/disability \$5.00

Student w/ ID \$5.00



MUSIC UNDER GLASS

Every Thursday night

6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

November - March

ICE SKATING



Great fun and great exercise indoors and outdoors for the whole family!

LOCATIONS

Slice of Ice

in Red Arrow Park

920 North Water Street

(414) 289-8791

Winter season, weather permitting.

Wilson Ice Arena

4001 South 20th Street

(414) 281-6289

Open year round

M, W, F: 1 pm - 5 pm

Sat: 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm

COSTS

Slice of Ice

Own skates

Skate rental

Skate sharpening

FREE

\$8 adults \$7 kids

\$6

Wilson Ice Arena

Age 18–59

Age 11–17

Age 60 and Up

Age 10 & under

Skate rental

Skate sharpening

\$6

\$4

\$4

\$3.50

\$3

\$6

Winter Activities in Your Milwaukee County Parks

INDOOR POOLS



Our two indoor pools offer water exercise classes, aqua zumba, lap swim sessions, open swim, and space to rent for events.

LOCATIONS

Pulaski

2701 South 16th Street

(414) 645-2328

Noyes

8235 West Good Hope Road

(414) 353-2433

GENERAL ADMISSION

Age 11 and Under	\$2
Age 12 and Up	\$3
Water Exercise Class	\$3
Aqua Zumba	\$3
Lap Swim Session	\$3



Pulaski

Mon & Wed

5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Noyes

Mon & Wed

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

COMMUNITY CENTERS



Our two community centers offer youth programming, open gym, fitness classes, exercise and weight rooms, and space to rent for meetings and events.

LOCATIONS

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center

1531 West Vliet Street

(414) 344-5600

9 am – 8:30 pm

Kosciuszko Community Center

2201 South 7th Street

(414) 645-4624

M-F: 9 am – 8 pm

Sat: 9 am – 12:30 pm

(Sept-May only)

GENERAL ADMISSION

Resident 18 and up	\$35
Non-resident 18 and up	\$90
Ages 13-17	\$22
Under 12	\$14
Family of 4	\$70
Add'l fam. 13-17	\$11
Add'l fam. Under 12	\$7
Resident Day Pass	\$2.50
Day Pass Non-Resident	\$4
Replacement Card	\$5

Save the Date

LBWN Executive Breakfast

Thursday, March 22, 2012

7:15 to 9:00 am

Miller Park,

NYCE Stadium Club

Keynote Speaker: Ellen Gilligan, Greater Milwaukee Foundation

Save the date for Layton Boulevard West Neighbors' annual Executive Breakfast fundraiser. This year's event will be held overlooking Miller Park's left field in the NYCE stadium club. Ellen Gilligan, the president and CEO of the Greater Milwaukee Foundation, will be our keynote speaker.

This is your opportunity to support a neighborhood that has created a vision for a community of choice through a quality of life plan. LBWN is now working to attract the investment necessary to achieve that vision. Join us at the 2012 Executive Breakfast to help turn this vision into the reality of a great place to live, work, and play.

	Per Person	Per Table
<u>By March 8, 2012</u>	\$125	\$1,000
<u>After March 8, 2012</u>	\$150	\$1,250

If you are interested in attending, would like information about table sponsorships, and/or would like to be contacted with more information about the event, please click [here](#)

City of Milwaukee Needs Bilingual Poll Workers for 2012 Elections

The Milwaukee Election Commission recently received notification from the United States Department of Justice Voting Rights Section that the City of Milwaukee is subject to the language assistance provisions of Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act. In addition to providing all voting materials in Spanish, the Election Commission must provide bilingual poll workers at those polling sites identified as having a large concentration of Hispanic voters.

An analysis of census data and Election Commission registered voter data indicate that the 34 wards in the 8th and 12th Aldermanic Districts contain the highest concentration of Hispanic voters. The City is still in the process of hiring Election Inspectors for the upcoming 2012 elections and beyond. I am writing again to ask for your help in recruiting our Spanish speaking/

Bilingual Election Inspectors for the 12th and 8th Districts. If you or someone you know would like to work the elections, we still are hiring for these full and part time positions! The compensation has increased, and is as follows: full time: \$130, part-time: \$65, plus a paid three hour training: \$21.75.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact myself or Sue Edman, Executive Director, Election Commission at 414-286-3491. For additional information, please visit the Election Commission website at www.milwaukee.gov/election.

All workers must attend ONE of several two-hour training sessions which are tentatively scheduled for the week of January 30 – February 3, 2012. Workers will be compensated for attending training as well as serving on Election Days.

Save the Date

Bay View Winter Blast

Thursday, February 19, 2012

12:00pm to 4:00 pm

South Shore Park Pavilion

This is Bay View's only chili cook-off with multiple Bay View restaurants and individuals competing for Bay View's best chili. A community festival, Bay View Winter Blast features musical entertainment and family activities along with area community groups setting up shop.

Supervisor Dimitrijevic is excited to participate in her 9th Winter Blast!

4th Annual Bay View Community Center Wine Tasting Benefit

The Bay View Community Center will host its 4th annual wine tasting benefit this year:

February 18th, 2012

7:00pm—10:00pm

Woodland Dreams Ballroom,

Potawatomi Bingo Casino

1721 West Canal St

Tickets are \$39 in advance or \$45 at the door

For more information visit bayviewwine.org

Let's support the center that serves our community!